

Listing of claims:

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1. (currently amended) A magnetic head device comprising:

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a base member made of a non-magnetic material;

a thin-film magnetic head, which is in contact with the base member and is accommodated in a single non-magnetic layer, and which thin-film magnetic head comprises a lower yoke, a magnetoresistive element, an upper yoke, and electrode terminals;

an auxiliary member made of a non-magnetic material which sandwiches the non-magnetic layer between the auxiliary member and the base member, wherein the auxiliary member is bonded to the single non-magnetic layer at an upper position of the base member such that the electrode terminals are exposed through the single non-magnetic layer; and

a slider surface on which magnetic tape slides in one of a first direction along which the base member, the non-magnetic layer, and the auxiliary member are arranged, and a second direction which is inclined at a predetermined angle relative to the first direction, wherein a magnetic gap is exposed on the slider surface between the ends of the upper and lower yokes that are situated in parallel with each other on the slider surface, and wherein each upper surface of the base member and the auxiliary member is curved so as to form the slider surface.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The magnetic head device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the non-magnetic layer on the slider surface has an area of 0.02 mm x 0.08 mm or less.

4. (Cancelled)

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